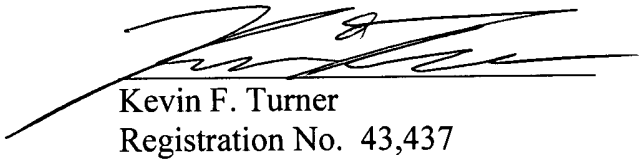
REMARKS

The subject application is a continuation application filed under 37 CFR § 1.53(b) of parent application Serial No. 09/384,496, filed on August 27, 1999. The above amendments are submitted to place the application in condition for examination. Claims 1-5 and 10-16 having been cancelled without prejudice, claims 6-9 and 17-18 are respectfully submitted for consideration.

Timely examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Please charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment to Counsel's Deposit Account No. 50-2222.

Respectfully submitted,



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